

Amendment and Response
Applicants: Garland L. Segner et al.
Serial No.: 10/632,145

Attorney Docket: EV31008US

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 14, 16 to 19, 22 to 35, 37 to 40, and 43 to 49 were pending in this application. The Examiner withdrew from consideration claims 3 to 6, 10, 11, 16, 22, 23, 26 to 29, 31, 32, 37, 43 to 47, and 49. Claims 1, 7, 8, 11, 14, 17, 18, 22 to 24, 26, 27, 32, 35, 38, 39, 43 to 46, 48, and 49 have been amended. The amendments to the claims clarify the subject matter of the claims and correct matters of form. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found in the specification at page 15, lines 7 to 13, and in Figures 7 and 8. Support for the new units in claims 14, 18, 35, and 39 can be found in the specification at page 6, lines 18 and 19, and page 8, lines 6 to 7. Claims 1, 2, 7 to 9, 12 to 14, 17 to 19, 24, 25, 30, 33 to 35, 38 to 40, and 48 are pending and under examination.

The Examiner objected to certain claims for reciting "the plurality of wire strands" without antecedent basis and for varying units of measure between inches and centimeters. Claims 1, 7, 8, 11, 14, 17, 18, 24, 32, 35, 38, 39, 45, 46, 48, and 49 have been amended to overcome these objections. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw these objections to the claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 24, 30, 33 to 35, 38 to 40, and 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,019,736 to Avellanet et al. ("Avellanet").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection of the claims. Independent claims 1, 24, 45, 46, 48, and 49 recite that the guide wire comprises a single coil comprising 3 to 24 wire strands, each of the 3 to 24 wire strands being formed in a single helix and wrapped helically parallel to one another to thereby form the single coil, the single coil having a longitudinal central axis and an interior, and the angle between the wire strands and the longitudinal central axis is from 10 to 45 degrees. Claims 1, 14, 45, and 46 recite that at least a portion of the tapered distal region of the core is disposed within the interior of the single coil. Claim 48

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recites that the single coil is disposed distal to the distal end of the core. Claim 49 recites that the entire core is disposed within the interior of the single coil.

Avellanet does not teach or suggest the claimed structure having 3 to 24 wire strands, each of the 3 to 24 wire strands being formed in a single helix and wrapped helically parallel to one another to thereby form the single coil, the single coil having a longitudinal central axis and an interior. In addition, Avellanet does not teach or suggest the claimed range for the angle of from 10 to 45 degrees. Figure 11 of Avellanet shows an angle between the coil 116 and the core 100 that falls outside of this range. No angle falling within the claimed range is disclosed in Avellanet. Because Avellanet does not teach or suggest the claimed structure of the claimed range for the angle, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection of the claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 7 to 9, 12 to 14, 17 to 19, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over the combination of Avellanet and U.S. Patent No. 5,749,837 to Palermo et al. ("Palermo").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection of the claims. As discussed above, independent claims 1, 24, 45, 46, 48, and 49 recite that the guide wire comprises a single coil comprising 3 to 24 wire strands, each of the 3 to 24 wire strands being formed in a single helix and wrapped helically parallel to one another to thereby form the single coil, the single coil having a longitudinal central axis and an interior, and the angle between the wire strands and the longitudinal central axis is from 10 to 45 degrees.

Avellanet does not teach or suggest the claimed structure having 3 to 24 wire strands, each of the 3 to 24 wire strands being formed in a single helix and wrapped helically parallel to one another to thereby form the single coil, the single coil having a longitudinal central axis and an interior. In addition, Avellanet does not teach or suggest the claimed range for the angle of from 10 to 45 degrees.

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Palermo does not remedy these deficiencies of Avellanet. Because the combination of Avellanet and Palermo does not teach or suggest claimed structure or the claimed range for the angle, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection of the claims.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objections to the specification and the rejections of the claims.

If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-2312. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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